

MEDIA ALERT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 27, 2007

MAILING ADDRESS

SACRAMENTO COUNTY

8631 BOND ROAD
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YOLO COUNTY

1234 FORTNA AVENUE
WOODLAND, CA 95695

1.800.429.1022
FIGHTtheBITE.net

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**MOSQUITO CONTROL ANNOUNCES AERIAL RESPONSE TO INCREASED WEST NILE
VIRUS ACTIVITY**
--District Proceeds With Response Plan

ELK GROVE, Calif. -The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District announced today that aerial treatment for adult mosquitoes that may carry the potentially fatal West Nile virus is scheduled for North Sacramento County beginning Monday, July 30, 2007 from approximately 7:30pm to 11:00pm and continue July 31 and August 1.

The District continuously monitors the spread of West Nile virus through human cases, mosquito samples, dead bird reports, and sentinel chickens. To date, the District has received confirmation of 2 humans, 50 mosquito samples, 25 birds, 4 sentinel chickens, and 1 horse that have tested positive for West Nile virus. Based on the surveillance data collected, as well as the high infection rates of mosquitoes tested, aerial adult mosquito treatment has been deemed necessary to protect public health and welfare, specifically in Orangevale, Citrus Heights, Antelope and North Sacramento. While every attempt is made to notify the public, the District may postpone or cancel a scheduled treatment due to weather and/or other reasons without prior notice. For a complete schedule, map and additional information please visit the District's Web site at FIGHTtheBITE.net.

In order to attend to any potential questions or concerns regarding aerial spraying, the District will hold a **press conference today, July 27, 2007 at 12pm**. District Manager David Brown will address the media at District Headquarters located at 8631 Bond Road in Elk Grove.

District's 7Ds of mosquito prevention: DRAIN any standing water that may produce mosquitoes. **DAWN** and **DUSK** are times to avoid being outdoors. These are the times when mosquitoes are most active. **DRESS** appropriately by wearing long sleeves and pants when outside. **DEFEND** yourself against mosquitoes by using an effective insect repellent, such as DEET, Picaridin or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus. Make sure you follow label directions! **DOOR** and window screens should be in good working condition. This will prevent mosquitoes from entering your home. **DISTRICT** personnel are also available to address any mosquito problem you may be experiencing by calling 1-800-429-1022 or visiting the District online at FIGHTtheBITE.net.

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DAVID BROWN, MANAGER

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West Nile virus

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), West Nile virus (WNV) is the leading cause of arboviral encephalitis in the United States. Originally discovered in Africa in 1937, WNV was first detected in the western hemisphere in 1999 in New York City. Since then it has caused seasonal epidemics of West Nile virus fever and severe neurological disease. West Nile virus is transmitted to humans and animals through the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes become infected with WNV when they feed on infected birds.

2007 West Nile virus activity update—Level 4

Sacramento County: 2 humans, 47 mosquito samples, 19 birds, 2 sentinel chickens, and 1 horse case have tested positive for West Nile virus to date.

Yolo County: 0 humans, 3 mosquito samples, 6 birds, 2 sentinel chickens, and 0 horse cases have tested positive for West Nile virus to date.

2006 West Nile virus activity

Sacramento County: 16 humans, 1 horse, 89 dead birds, 36 mosquito samples and 13 sentinel chickens tested positive for West Nile virus in 2006

Yolo County: 27 humans, 0 horses, 54 dead birds, 62 mosquito samples and 26 sentinel chickens tested positive for West Nile virus in 2006

To **report a dead bird or squirrel** call 1-877-WNV-BIRD (1-877-968-2473) or visit the California Department of Public Health online at westnile.ca.gov

The **Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District** provides mosquito and vector control services for Sacramento and Yolo counties.

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